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~~SECRET SPOKE~~ DIRNSA FOLLOW-UP NR ONE AND FINAL TO USA-29
CRITIC 14-72, 202223Z DEC 72 PRELININARY COMINT REFLECTS
THE SHOOT DOWN OF ONE B-52 AT APPROXIMATELY 2204Z, 20 DECEMBER
72 BY AN UNIDENTIFIED BATTALION OF THE 264 SAM REGIMENT
LOCATED AT 20-59N 105-37E. BETWEEN 2157Z AND 2200Z, AN ELEMENT
OF THE 264TH REGIMENT REPORTED THE LAUNCH OF TWO MISSILES;
NO RESULTS WERE REPORTED FOR EITHER LAUNCH. AT 2204Z A 264TH
MISSILE FIRING BATTALION REPORTED LAUNCHING TWO MISSILES.
THE TARGET WAS THEN REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN AT AN ALTITUDE
OF 10,500 METERS. AT 2211Z, THE SAME PROBABLE FIRING BATTALION
IF THE 264TH SAM REGIMENT REPORTED THAT THE TARGET WAS BURNING
BRIGHTLY. AT 2213Z, AN NVN GCI RADAR COMPANY NEAR HAI PHONG
REPORTED SEEING THE SHOOTDOWN. THE 264TH SAM REGIMENT AGAIN
AT 2219Z REPORTED SHOOTING AT AN AIRCRAFT AND SEEING IT
BURST INTO FLAMES (BELIEVED TO BE A REPEAT OF THE 2211Z
REPORT). AT 2219Z, THE 264TH REGIMENT CLAIMED A B-52 SHOOTDOWN.
COMMENT COLLATERAL SOURCES CONFIRM THE LOSS OF ONE B-52.
FURTHER AMPLIFYING DATA WILL BE REPORTED VIA SEPARATE SERIES.
360 #0751 NNN

===EOD===

Approved for release by NSA on 07-16-2014, Transparency Case# 65886